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| **Supplementary Table 1: Description of positive cultures** | | | | | |
| **Age (months)** | **Patient Category (Preoperative, Postoperative or Medical)** | **Culture Source** | **Organism** | **Positive result during rule out time frame** | **Days after hospital admission 24 hour rule-out performed** |
| 4.5 | Post-operative | Blood | Enterobacter | Yes | 137 days |
| 3.5 | Post-operative | Blood | Methicillin susceptible staphylococcus aureus | No | 113 days |
| 2 | Pre-operative | Blood and Respiratory | Staphylococcus aureus (both methicillin susceptible) | Yes | 6 days |
| 4 | Post-operative | Blood and Respiratory | Klebsiella pneumoniae (blood), Methicillin susceptible staphylococcus aureus (respiratory) | Yes | 38 days |
| 11 | Post-operative | Respiratory | Moraxella catarrhalis | No | 285 days |
| 4 | Post-operative | Respiratory | Moraxella catarrhalis | Yes | 25 days |
| 0.2 | Post-operative | Respiratory | Escherichia coli | Yes | 5 days |
| 11 | Post-operative | Respiratory | Coagulase-negative staphylococci | No | 331 days |
| 5 | Post-operative | Respiratory | Klebsiella pneumoniae and Enterobacter | Yes | 17 days |
| 2.5 | Medical | Respiratory | Methicillin susceptible staphylococcus aureus and Moraxella catarrhalis | No | 78 days |
| 1.25 | Pre-operative | Respiratory | Candida albicans | Yes | 7 days |
| 0.25 | Pre-operative | Urine | Escherichia coli | Yes | 7 days |
| 6 | Post-operative | Urine | Klebsiella pneumoniae | Yes | 99 days |

*Description of positive cultures & associated patient characteristics in the 24 hour rule-out patient population.*